## Consideration of the dedication of an addition to the Oscar and Ruth Hall Woods Nature Preserve in Putnam County

The proposed Nature Preserve is a 28.905 acre property in the northeast corner of Putnam County, 1.1 mile east of the town of Bainbridge. This nature preserve is an addition to the original 92.63 acre preserve and protects the stream corridor of the Big Walnut Creek and an important block of forested habitat in Indiana's Central Till Plain.

This Nature Preserve consists of topography that has several ridges, deep ravines, and steep bluffs along the west bank of Big Walnut Creek. Several high quality natural communities are found in the preserve. The mesic upland forest is characterized by an unusually high degree of dominance by white oak. The mesic floodplain forest is characterized by a cottonwood-ash-sycamore community. These community types along with their expected component flora and fauna contain many species that are area-sensitive forest interior plants and animals dependent upon large, unfragmented forest ecosystems.

Noteworthy animal species found in this Nature Preserve include:

The site is utilized as nesting habitat by Neotropical migrant birds, including the Cerulean Warbler (State Endangered). The riparian areas are home to two mussel species of State Special Concern: the Little Spectaclecase and the Wavy-rayed Lampmussel.

This tract is owned and managed by the Department of Natural Resources and the Division of Nature Preserves.

The Division of Nature Preserves recommends dedication of this site as an addition to the Hall Woods Nature Preserve.

Attached is Nature Preserves exhibit A.

## Hall Woods Addition Nature Preserve (Oscar and Ruth)

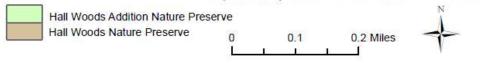
## Exhibit A

7.5 Quad Roachdale

County: Putnam Size: 28.905 a USGS Map: Ownership: 28.905 acres Department of Natural Resources



map created by R Wilson IDNR Nature Preserves 11.03.2011



## AGENDA ITEM #6